

State of California  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Colorado River Basin Region

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**

Thursday, March 17, 2011, 10:00 a.m.  
Town of Yucca Valley  
Community Center - Yucca Room  
57090 Twentynine Palms Highway  
Yucca Valley, CA 92284

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The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, was called to order by the Chair Ellen Way at 10:15 a.m. on March 17, 2011 in La Quinta, California.

Roll Call (Board Members Only)

**Board Members Present:**

Buford Crites, Tom Davis, Jeff Hays, Red Martinez, Edward Muzik, and Ellen Way. The Board Secretary stated that a quorum was present.

**Staff Present:**

Jose Angel, Terry Barnes, John Carmona, Abdi Haile, Robert Perdue, Jonathan Rokke, Joan Stormo, Hilda Vasquez, Doug Wylie.

**Others Present:**

Marge B., Yucca Valley  
Steve Bigley, Coachella Valley Water District  
Bonnie Brady Yucca Valley resident  
Lary Callander, Yucca Valley  
Bob C., Yucca Valley  
Jay Corbin, City of 29 Palms  
Byron F., National Care  
Sarann Graham, Hi-Desert Water District Board President  
Tom Granger, Yucca Valley  
Joe Guzzetta, JBWD  
John Hale, Yucca Valley  
Richard Harlan, Resident  
Penny Hensly, Yucca Valley  
Lori Herbel, Citizen, Property owner  
Flenais Hill, Yucca Valley

J.B. Homburg, Myself and Citizens  
George Huntington, Yucca Valley  
J.B. Homburg, Yucca Valley  
Bill Horne, Yucca Valley  
Sheldon Hough, Director, Hi-Desert Water District  
David Humphrey, Yucca Valley  
Lois Johnson, Yucca Valley  
Elizabeth Karman, Yucca Mesa  
Mickey Luckman, JBWD  
Phyllis Lyte, Yucca Valley  
David Mahaffey, Resident  
Al Marquez, Joshua Tree  
Charles McKensy, Yucca Valley  
Scot McKone, Yucca Valley  
Ramon Mendoza, MITI  
Art Miller, Reed Estate  
Charlotte Morrison, Resident  
Bryce Myers, BMW Management-Sizzler  
Cheryl Nankerub, Yucca Valley  
Mark Nuaimi, Town Manager-Town of Yucca Valley  
Richard Quinlan, Yucca Mesa, WPAC-Hi-Desert Water District  
Claude Short, Resident  
Marjorie Smith, Yucca Valley  
David Stoffe, Yucca Valley  
Kevin Stoll, Property owner  
Margo Sturges, Yucca Valley  
Debra Thompson, Yucca Valley  
BE Triplett, Yucca Valley  
Catherine Vos, Granite Construction  
Stephanie Weigel, Joshua Tree  
Wade White, Yucca Valley  
Steven Whitman, JTMAC  
Linda Whittemore, Yucca Valley  
Dave Whittemore, Yucca Valley  
Kershin Yakutis, Yucca Valley  
Joe M, Yucca Valley  
Tom Vandenberg, State Water Board, Office of the Chief Counsel

## MINUTES

### 1. Minutes of January 20, 2011 Board Meeting

**MOTION:** Jeff Hays moved, Tom Davis seconded, and motion carried unanimously that the Minutes be adopted as amended.

## PUBLIC FORUM

### 2. No public comments.

## UNCONTESTED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

### 3. R7-2011-0017 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements for **City of Westmorland** – Imperial County

**MOTION:** Buford Crites moved, Red Martinez seconded. The motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2011-0017 be adopted.

### 4. R7-2011-0018 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements for **City of Imperial** – Imperial County

**MOTION:** Buford Crites moved, Red Martinez seconded. The motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2011-0018 be adopted.

### 5. R7-2011-0024 **Change of Name and/or Ownership** of Facilities having Waste Discharge Requirements.

**MOTION:** Buford Crites moved, Red Martinez seconded. The motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2011-0024 be adopted.

### 6. R7-2011-0026 Cease and Desist Order No. R7-2011-0026 issued to the **City of Imperial**, Owner/Operator Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant (MWWTP), Imperial – Imperial County

**MOTION:** Red Martinez moved, Jeff Hays seconded. The motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2011-0026 be adopted with errata.

## OTHER BUSINESS

### 7. Informational Update on Basin Planning Activities — JS

Moved to the May 19, 2011 Board meeting.

### 8. Informational Update on State Water Resources Control Board Activities — TV

Mr. Vandenberg updated the Board via email.

### 9. Colorado River Basin Water Board Executive Officer's Report — RP

Mr. Perdue discussed the pending September 20, 2011, sunset of the existing PG&E Topock Compressor Station Chromium ( $\text{Cr}^{+6}$ ) Cleanup Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs). The Regional Board adopted pump and treat and reinjection WDRs in September 2006, to mitigate and hydraulically control the large, concentrated  $\text{Cr}^{+6}$  GW plume moving towards the Colorado River, south of Needles in San Bernardino County.

### 10. Colorado River Basin Water Board Member Comments

Mr. Muzik stated the California Department of Water Resources is increasing allocations of State Project water due to abundant precipitation in northern California. However, Hi-Desert Water District does not have acceptable aquifer storage available.

Mr. Hays said he participated in a workshop on the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan focused on community outreach in the Coachella Valley (Valley). The water agencies in the Valley are working together to fund \$4,000,000 worth of proposals.

### 11. Colorado River Basin Water Board Chair's Report — EW

No report from Chair.

## **WORKSHOP — (11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)      LUNCH BREAK — (1:00 – 1:30 p.m.):**

### 12. In the Matter of a Proposed Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region to Prohibit Septic Tank Discharges in the Town of Yucca Valley.

**Purpose of workshop:** To give affected stakeholders and other interested persons an opportunity to discuss the proposed prohibition of septic tank discharges.

**Workshop topics:**

- to discuss all aspects of the proposed prohibition;

- to provide a forum for stakeholders to discuss any concerns they may have about the proposed prohibition;
- to discuss comments received to date and the Regional Water Board staff's responses; and,
- to update affected stakeholders and interested persons on the status of this proposed amendment.

Board member Ed Muzik recused himself from participating as a Board member in the septic tank prohibition Workshop, based on advice of Board counsel. He explained that although he was not legally prohibited from participating in the septic tank prohibition Workshop in his dual roles as a Board member and as the general manager of the Hi-Desert Water District, it was determined that he would be legally prohibited under the Water Code's conflict of interest provisions from participating later when the District sought Waste Discharge Requirements to operate its proposed wastewater treatment and collection system to serve those affected by the prohibition. Thus, because it was clear that the District's need to get Waste Discharge Requirements was an impending matter that would clearly prohibit his participation, he explained that he took counsel's advice not to participate as a Board member in any aspect of the septic tank prohibition, including this Workshop.

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING: *Thursday, May 19, 2011, 9:00 a.m., in La Quinta***

**ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING AND WORKSHOP: 3:19 p.m.**